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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

MICHINOBU NAKAMURA ET AL

: EXAMINER: AFREMOVA

SERIAL NO.: 09/674,280

:

FILED: DECEMBER 21, 2000

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1651

FOR: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING
PROTEIN HYDROLYZATE

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action dated January 14, 2002, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 9-13 and 16-21, without prejudice toward the further prosecution of these claims in a Continuation and/or Divisional Application.

Please amend the claims as shown in the attached marked-up copy to read as follows.

7. (Amended) A method for producing hydrolyzed protein by subjecting a vegetable protein material containing saccharides to enzymatic hydrolysis, comprising: